

RECRUIT REVIEW



WEEK IN REVIEW

By: Vance Henning

In week two of the Police Corps recruit class the main focus was on communication. The recruits learned and used valuable interview skills from Sergeant Page. Communication came up again on Thursday when the recruits learned the importance of communicating with other departments.

Monday through Wednesday the recruits had to listen closely as they got more PT and drill instructions from the National Guard Challenge Academy.

Their week of communication concluded on Thursday night. Thursday night the recruits participated in "blind soccer" and other team-

building activities. Despite having a couple of laughs, the recruits were able to see first hand the importance of good communication.

Accountability
Integrity
Respect
Teamwork
Professionalism

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POLICE ETHICS

By: Cherise McFarlane

On Wednesday, June 26, 2002, Lieutenant Dan Marcou of the LaCrosse Police Department visited our recruit class. Lieutenant Marcou discussed the ethics of our chosen profession. On a scale of 1 to 10, the general public seems to rate police ethics around a 5. So what steps do we need to take as future police officers to become tens and remain tens? The first step is to understand ethics and why it should be held at high priority in our professional and personal lives. We should also have an example of good ethical

character and define our goals.

Ethics is defined as a code of values that guide our choices and actions and determines the purpose and course of our lives. Once we define our values, we must apply them every day regardless of being on duty or off duty. By applying our values we guarantee career survival and honor in our profession.

We had the opportunity to see what it's like to have integrity. Watching the biography and movie of re-

tired NYPD officer Frank Serpico, we were shown a positive example of a police officer that knew his values well and stood by them in all aspects of his career.

Lt. Marcou taught us valuable lessons in ethics that we can use in all aspects of our lives. He made sure we understood that police officers are held to high standards. As our lives continue, we will remember that "values are primarily caught not taught" and we should "think...then A.C.T."

"The world is a dangerous place to live in, not because of the evil people, but the people that allow them to do it."

Albert Einstein



INTERVIEWING SUSPECTS, VICTIMS, AND WITNESSES

By: Jeremy Geiszler

Monday and Tuesday of week two brought in Sergeant Steve Page of the Eau Claire Police Department. Sergeant Page talked about interviewing suspects, victims, and witnesses. The recruits learned that one of the most important elements of being a good interviewer is to be empathetic. When you are empathetic towards a person you are much more likely to obtain the information that you need. As Sergeant Page said, "everyone wants to tell everything to everybody." However, while being empathetic, the officer must still be able to establish and maintain control of the situation.

The recruits also learned the basic skills necessary for being a competent interviewer. The skills the recruits learned included the proper attitude, posture, and facial expressions. Additionally, the recruits learned that the interview is very important in that it can help get a written statement so that the suspect, victim, or witness cannot go back on their word.

The training ended with the recruits practicing the skills they learned in scenarios. None of them were perfect, but they all had the chance to use their newly learned skills first hand.



Recruits using their interview techniques in role play.

JURISDICTIONS OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

By: David Walters

There are over 400 police departments in the state of Wisconsin. There are 72 sheriff departments and many other state law enforcement agencies. If these agencies do not work together, total chaos will come forth. Chief Neil Strobel of the Merrill Police Department instructed our class about this topic on Thursday, June 27. Merrill is

a small town, just like many other towns in Wisconsin. Most of the police departments in small towns do not have the resources that the bigger departments have. Because of this, agencies need to have mutual aid going on with other agencies. Mutual aid is when agencies share resources and manpower with each other. This

benefits both departments and helps keep the towns running smoothly. Law enforcement is dependent upon teamwork, and everyone in this profession needs to realize they are part of the same team.



The recruits stand at attention while preparing for their hourly PT exercise.

GOOOOAL!! Recruits learn the importance of communication and teamwork while playing blind soccer.

